USAID/Afghanistan seeks concept papers from eligible U.S. and non- U.S nonprofit, for profit, and educational institution interested to implement its program called "Afghanistan Job Creation Program (AJCP)" over the next one to five years. For this purpose, the Mission issued a solicitation or Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) under the opportunity number "APS-306-17-00003" and opportunity title "Afghanistan Jobs Creation Program" on June 15, 2017.

Under the subject NOFO or Annual Program Statement (APS), USAID intends to fund multiple awards to be implemented within the next five years with total estimated shared ceiling of \$96 million. The expected size of each award to be issued under this APS will be between \$2,000,000 and \$10,000,000.

The main objectives of AJCP are I) to generate revenue and sustainable jobs by supporting value chain development and 2) to support trade promotion and facilitate Afghan businesses in increasing exports. This APS provides prospective applicants with a fair opportunity to develop and submit competitive applications to USAID for review and potential funding. Applicants must first submit a **Concept Paper** that will be reviewed in accordance with merit review criteria. If the concept paper is selected, an applicant whose concept paper has been selected will be requested to submit a **Full Application.**

The full APS for AJCP has been posted on Grants.Gov, a system that provides a centralized location for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities:

Request for Concept Papers - Afghanistan Job Creation Program (AJCP)

Interested applicants are encouraged to participate in the **Interested Parties Conference** to be held on June 27, 2017 from 10:00 to 11: 30 AM Washington, D.C. time at McFadden Offices, National Press Building 529, 14th street, NW, Washington, D.C. Those representatives who are not able to physically participate in the conference can participate in the conference through phone call using USA Toll- Free calling number (888) 330-1716 (if calling from US) or using caller paid number (713) 353-7024 (if calling from outside of US). Access code for both call-in numbers is 2696573.